

Docket No. **2026-4124US1****PATENT**

C² 3¹⁷. (Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claim ²16 having the sequence KTWGQYWQV (SEQ.ID.NO:46), KTWGQYWQVL (SEQ ID NO:47), ITDQVPFSV (SEQ ID NO:48) [and]; or TITDQVPFSV (SEQ ID NO:49).

C³ 5 19. (Amended) The immunogenic peptide of claims ²16, ³17, ⁴or 18 wherein said peptide contains at least one amino acid modification of said gp100 sequence.

C⁴ 9 22. (Amended) An immunogenic peptide having the [a] formula selected from the group consisting of X₁X₂X₃GQYWQX₄, X₁X₂X₃QVPFSX₄ and X₁X₂X₃PGPVTX₄ wherein:

X₁ is any naturally occurring amino acid;

X₂ is any hydrophobic aliphatic amino acid;

X₃ is any naturally occurring amino acid; and

X₄ is any [a] hydrophobic aliphatic amino acid.

9 23. (Amended) The peptide of claim ⁸22 wherein the amino acid for X₁ is selected from the group consisting of methionine, leucine, alanine, glycine, threonine, isoleucine, valine tyrosine, serine, tryptophan, phenylalanine, serine, lysine [or] and aspartic acid.

10 24. (Amended) The peptide of claim ⁸22 wherein X₂ is selected from the group consisting of methionine, leucine, alanine, glycine, isoleucine, valine [or] and threonine.

11 25. (Amended) The peptide of claim ⁸22 wherein X₃ is selected from the group consisting of methionine, leucine, alanine, glycine, threonine, isoleucine, tyrosine, valine, tryptophan, phenylalanine, serine, lysine [or] and aspartic acid.

Docket No. 2026-4124US1

PATENT

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12 26. (Amended) The peptide of claim ^B22 wherein X₄ is selected from the group consisting of methionine, leucine, alanine, glycine, isoleucine, valine [or] and threonine.

14 28. (Amended) The immunogenic peptide of [any one of claims 1, 9,] claim 15 or claim ^B22 wherein said peptide is a native, synthetic or recombinant peptide.

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29. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the peptides of [any one of claims 1, 9,] claim 15 or claim 22 and an acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.

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30. (Amended) A method of [preventing or] treating melanoma in a mammal comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim 29 to a mammal in an effective amount to stimulate the production of [protective antibodies or] immune cells.

31. (Amended) An immunogenic composition [A vaccine] for immunizing a mammal comprising a peptide according to [any one of claims 1, 9,] claim 15 or claim 22 in a pharmacologically acceptable carrier.

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are pending in this application. Claims 15-18, 22-26 and 27-31 stand rejected, claims 19-21 are objected to, and claims 1-14, 27-31 and 32-38 are withdrawn from consideration. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification. Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.